

What is claimed is:

1. A printing method comprising:

a step of performing pre-communication with an external
5 device before print data are obtained from said external device;

a step of obtaining print data from said external device;

a step of setting a print condition according to the content
of said pre-communication; and

a step of printing on a medium based on said print data
10 according to said print condition that has been set.

2. A printing method according to claim 1,

wherein a reception unit for receiving said print data is
specified from among a plurality of reception units depending on
15 the content of said pre-communication, and

wherein said print condition is set according to the
reception unit that is specified.

3. A printing method according to claim 2,

20 wherein said reception unit receives print data from said
external device either wirelessly or via a wire.

4. A printing method according to claim 2,

25 wherein said reception unit is a logic channel that has been
set logically.

5. A printing method according to claim 4,

wherein said logic channel is set in compliance with a
transfer format that is used when receiving data from said external
30 device.

6. A printing method according to claim 5,
wherein said transfer format is at least one of
a profile for transferring text data or
5 a profile for transferring image data.

7. A printing method according to claim 2,
wherein in said pre-communication, information for
designating said reception unit is received from said external
10 device, and

wherein said print condition is set in accordance with said
information for designating said reception unit that is received.

8. A printing method according to claim 7,
15 wherein a lookup table correlating said reception unit and
said print condition is prepared, and

wherein said print condition is set based on said lookup
table and said information for designating said reception unit
that is received.

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9. A printing method according to claim 7,
wherein said information for designating said reception
unit is an identifier of said reception unit, and

25 wherein said print condition is set in accordance with said
identifier that is received.

10. A printing method according to claim 9,
wherein said identifier of said reception unit is sent to
said external device before said information for designating said
30 reception unit is received from said external device.

11. A printing method according to claim 2,
wherein at least one operation of
an operation of carrying the medium,
5 an operation of ejecting liquid onto said medium, or
an operation of a carriage
is set in accordance with said reception unit that has received
said print data.

10 12. A printing method according to claim 2,
wherein printing is carried out on said medium based on pixel
data that are created based on said print data, and
wherein said pixel data are created based on said print data
according to said print condition that has been set in accordance
15 with said reception unit that has received said print data.

13. A printing method according to claim 1,
wherein said print condition is prepared for each
identifier;
20 wherein at least one identifier is obtained from said
external device; and
wherein said print condition is chosen from said print
condition that has been prepared in advance based on the identifier
that is received from said external device.

25 14. A printing method according to claim 13,
wherein a plurality of said identifiers are arranged in a
hierarchy according to their content;
wherein a priority order is set for said identifiers
30 arranged in the hierarchy; and

wherein said print condition is selected based on said priority order.

15. A printing method according to claim 14,

5 wherein at least one of a protocol identifier, a profile identifier, a model name identifier, and a unique address identifier is obtained from said external device, and

10 wherein based on said identifier that is received from said external device, a print condition is selected from said print conditions prepared in advance.

16. A printing method according to claim 15,

15 wherein the hierarchy is arranged such that the priority order of said protocol identifier is lowest.

17. A printing method according to claim 15,

wherein the hierarchy is arranged such that the priority order of said unique address identifier is highest.

20 18. A printing method according to claim 1,

wherein a communications protocol is specified in accordance with the content of said pre-communication, and

25 wherein said print condition is set in accordance with said communications protocol that has been specified.

19. A printing method according to claim 18,

wherein a different print condition is set for a Direct Print Service protocol of a Universal Serial Bus, a Basic Imaging Profile of Bluetooth, and a Basic Printing Profile of Bluetooth.

20. A printing method according to claim 18, further comprising:
a step of displaying a predetermined print condition on a screen;

a step of, when said print condition is set in accordance
5 with said communications protocol that has been specified,
displaying said print condition that has been set on said screen
in place of said predetermined print condition; and

a step of displaying said predetermined print condition on
said screen in place of said print condition that has been set
10 after printing has been carried out on a medium based on said print
data in accordance with said print condition that has been set.

21. A printing apparatus comprising:

a reception section for receiving data from an external
15 device, wherein said reception section carries out
pre-communication with said external device before obtaining
print data from said external device;

a print condition setting section for setting a print
condition for print data obtained by said reception section,
20 wherein said print condition setting section sets a print
condition in accordance with the content of said
pre-communication; and

a print head for printing on a medium based on said print
data in accordance with said print condition that has been set.